So, out like a lamb?

Numismagram Newsletter #167 (III/2026)

We've arrived at March, and it's fair to say that the month appears to be beginning like a lion. The world is dealing with yet another war that occurred on the heels of the closing ceremonies of the Winter Olympics, reminiscent to events of 2022. Rather unintentionally, *as the pieces had already been selected before the Middle East events of this past weekend*, this first upload of new material for March has a number of medals that touch upon various bellicose events.

For example, there's this 1739 brass medal featuring Admiral Vernon along with his exploits and alleged success in what is now Panama…

This decisive naval engagement was a part of the War of Jenkins' Ear, itself a subset of the War of the Austrian Succession (*the genesis of another conflict—the French and Indian War in the North American theater*).

And speaking of North America, first there's this colorfully toned silver medal from 1829, graded **PCGS MS-64**, which commemorates the role that King Willem I of the Netherlands played in attempting to broker an agreement between the United States and colonial Canada with respect to border disputes…

The matter would eventually be settled, largely along the same lines as those suggested by the Dutch king, though it would not be for years later. Outside of more recent juvenile threats of annexation and a pair of OT gold-winning goals in men's and women's ice hockey, relations aren't nearly as fraught as during this border dispute period.

Secondly, on America's southern bounds, there is this fairly rare and flashy aluminum medal issued by Spanish authorities at the end of their time in colonial Cuba…

This piece, intended to be presented to residents of Havana who endured the American blockade of the harbor during the Spanish-American War, ended up being set aside and essentially forgotten about, as Spain was on the losing end of the conflict. As such, her New World colonial possessions came to a four century end.

Of course, there is also a reference to World War I in this upload (*two, in fact*), as that conflict tends to dominate in medallic art. Here is Karl Goetz's take on the spark in Sarajevo that led to the outbreak of WWI…

It’s not all doom and gloom in this upload, however, as there are more uplifting pieces, such as this Art Deco silver award medal for France’s Electrical Construction Union…

…or this bronze restrike of Lavrillier’s *Léda et le Cygne*…

…or even this Nobel nominating committee (graded **PCGS SP-63**) silver medal for the prize in the science field…

For all of this upload's new items, please click **here** or on the banner art at the top of this newsletter. We'll be back again in the middle of the month on March 18th with another selection of museum-quality art, historical, and contemporary medals.

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